

Douglas S. Freeman High School
Leadership Center Summer Reading List 2010

In support of Henrico County Public Schools summer reading guidelines, we believe that the purpose of requiring summer reading for advanced classes is to

- a. encourage a life-long love of reading;
- b. expose students to a variety of texts that will introduce them to theme, skills, etc. that they will encounter in the new school year;
- c. build students' vocabulary;
- d. broaden students' reading experiences; and
- e. keep students actively engaged in their education during summer months.

Because we expect honors students to be thoroughly conversant with each book, you are strongly urged to purchase your own books so that you can write notes in them at will. Taking notes is essential to active reading. Take handwritten notes, no more than **two pages per novel**, front of the page only. You may use these notes on the test, and they will be collected for a quiz grade on the day of the test based on completion and adherence to the focus questions addressed below. Please do not resort to Spark Notes or other outside references. Honors students are expected to acquire the full value of the reading experience by learning to read and interpret independently. Short cuts diminish this experience. Movie versions often change plot, blend characters, and change the focus of the novel completely.

The test will include both objective questions and an essay administered during the second week of school. The essay addresses the theme of courage. Be sure you can incorporate examples and quotations from EACH of your two novels.

You must read a total of **two (2)** books for your English course. Henrico County Public Schools strongly encourages parents/guardians to work with their children as they choose their summer reading books. **Please note that the requirement is different for Center and non-Center students.**

As you read and take notes, keep these essential questions in mind as they serve as a connection between the works: **How do the authors show the characters building courage? How do the characters overcome obstacles?** Your notes should focus solely on these questions.

Leadership Center Students for your English course:

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| <i>The Secret Life of Bees</i> | Sue Monk Kidd |
| <i>Zorro</i> | Isabel Allende |
| <i>The Book Thief</i> | Markus Zusak |
| <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> | Ray Bradbury |

For your Foundations of Leadership Course:

Leadership Center students are required to read the following selections from The Leader's Companion, J. Thomas Wren, ed., and complete the assignment that follows. We encourage you to purchase the book.

Please read essays 3, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 in The Leader's Companion. All students should write a 2 page typed, double-spaced essay that answers the question: "What are the qualities of an effective leader?" Please note that the essays do not all agree on the essential qualities. Which of the writers presents the most compelling case? This is due on Monday, the second week of school.